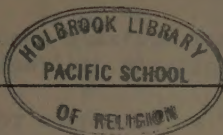


No. 2

Twenty-fourth Year



January 18, 1957

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Universal Day of Prayer for Students

Students and churches in all countries on Sunday, are asked to pray February 17, the Universal Day of Prayer for Students, remembering especially the people suffering in Hungary and the Middle East.

In a message commending this year's Call to Prayer, Philippe Maury, general secretary of the World's Student Christian Federation, calls on the Federation's members "to act in accordance with this prayer of intercession - to do everything in their power to alleviate their suffering." He requests support for World University Service and the refugee relief of the World Council of Churches.

The Call to Prayer, which is accompanied by a service of worship and intercession, says that the students throughout the world "ask the same questions - questions concerning the physical universe, national freedom and peace, personal ambition; questions about family life and relationships; questions (it may be) about meaning as well as measuring, character as well as culture, life as well as thought."

"Students also meet at a deeper level, along with the rest of men," says the message. "In the Father's will is our peace. His Son confronts us openly with offer and challenge. It is His Spirit we deny, or resist, or obey. But for some there is a deeper unity yet, which belongs to the people of God. Those who believe are given the right to become the children of God, eating at the same table, sharing a common trust in our Saviour Christ who speaks of 'My Father and your Father'. It is He who teaches us how to pray."

The Call declares that the Lord's Prayer implies that those who use it will be identified with Christ. Its words "Our Father" are not "conventional and undemanding but part of the scandal of the Cross. Let us pray for students who cannot accept that the name 'Father' has anything to do with God; for those whose intellectual problems are a symbol of moral uneasiness; for all who are committed to a doctrine which has no room for God's redeeming act in Christ - whether one of the great ancient religions, or Islam, or atheistic communism, or materialism."

Explaining the meaning of the opening of Christ's Prayer, the Call makes detailed requests for intercession on behalf of students in many different situations. It says that "to call God Father is not to speak presumptuously but to speak in obedience to Christ, and by His Grace," that "to use the adjective 'our' is not to shut up God within His Church, but call all men to a new birth through the Spirit," and that "to say 'our Father' is not to be childish, but to receive the freedom of mature sonship."

The Call concludes: "So on this day, as in duty bound, let us think prayerfully of one another in our different situations. We meet with Him who is the firstborn of many brethren, within the family of God. An old liturgy follows the receiving of the body and blood of Christ at the family table with the words, 'And now, as our Lord hath taught us, we are bold to say: Our Father'. Let us say it, then, in many languages, but one voice."

The full text, with an order of worship, is available from the World's Student Christian Federation, 13 rue Calvin, Geneva, Switzerland. E.P.S., Geneva

COLOMBIAUS State Department Intervenes for Rights of American Protestants

In a statement declaring that constant attention is being given to the situation in Colombia through the American Embassy at Bogota, the US State Department has pledged itself to "continue to make every effort to obtain full protection and consideration for the rights and property of citizens of the United States."

"Since 1951," says the statement, "There have been numerous incidents of violence involving American missionaries and destruction of American mission property."

The State Department lists as "another cause for complaint" a "so-called mission agreement signed by representatives of the Vatican and the Colombian Government at Bogota on January 29, 1953, by which the Roman Catholic Church was given exclusive right to proselytise and carry on religious and educational work in a considerably expanded area, now believed to constitute between two-thirds and three-fourths of the national territory.

As a result of this new delimitation," says the statement, "a number of Protestant missions were ordered closed by the Colombian authorities. Since 1953 our embassy at Bogota has taken up this question on numerous occasions with the Colombian Foreign Office, emphasizing the long period over which Protestant establishments have existed in this area and the inequity of the action taken against them. The Colombian Government has given considerable study to the problem, and has indicated that it hopes it will be possible to reopen the closed churches in the near future."

The Department of State and the United States' Foreign Service are described as being "constantly alert to instances of religious persecution anywhere in the world." They explain that "whenever violations or abridgements of civil rights and religious freedom occur and American interests are involved, the Department makes a careful investigation into the circumstances in order to determine what action could and should be taken. A considerable degree of success has been achieved in many such instances. When citizens of other countries are involved, however, there is often little that our government can do directly, for it must be recognized that these problems are primarily internal ones subject to the jurisdiction of other sovereign governments."

The Government of the United States, according to the State Department, "continues by every available means to make unmistakably clear its support of civil rights and freedom of worship, and we are actively engaged with other governments in international organizations in endeavouring to promote respect for these rights throughout the world."

Dr. Reuben E. Nelson, speaking as vice-chairman of the Department of Religious Liberty of the National Council of Churches, welcomed the news that the Colombian Government is re-considering its ban on Protestant missionary activities in large rural areas of the country. He commented that "the reopening of some twenty or more churches in the so-called "mission territories" of Colombia would seem an "indispensable" first step toward any practical solution of the long-standing issue.

The twenty churches referred to were those closed during 1956. Since January 1953, when the ban was announced in a government order, many churches and church-supported schools were closed because they were Protestant. At the same time the Roman Catholic Church was given the exclusive right to carry on religious education activities in the affected areas.

Since the ban was imposed, numerous acts of violence and destruction, including burning of church property, were carried on against the Protestant churches. Protestant groups in the United States, including the National Council of Churches, have protested against both the ban and the ensuing violence.

E.P.S., Geneva

FRANCECity of Lyons Sees Ecumenical Exhibition

An ecumenical exhibition to present the World Council of Churches to the people of a major French city opened in Lyons on January 11. A large display of photographs, maps, pictures and works of art is on show in the city's permanent exhibition gallery. Hundreds of posters have appeared in the city streets and shop windows, featuring the emblem of the World Council of Churches, the ship of the people of God afloat on the sea of the world, with the cross as a mast.

The opening of the exhibit, which was attended by representatives of the municipal authority, leading citizens, the general secretary of the World Council of Churches,

Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, and Bishop Dupuis, representing Cardinal Gerlier of Lyons, was followed by a large public meeting addressed by Dr. Visser 't Hooft. The exhibition has been prepared and reported by publicity in the daily press, and by radio and television. A Lyons cinema is currently showing "Ordet" (The Word), the Venice prize-winning Danish religious film based on a drama of Kaj Munk.

On successive days rallies of youth, laymen and women are bringing together members of parishes and congregations from all the districts round Lyons, which is the third city of France. Staff members of the World Council of Churches from Geneva have co-operated in the arrangements and the carrying through of the program. The president of the French Protestant Federation, Pastor Marc Boegner, will close the series of meetings with an address on "Christians Faced with the Problem of Unity".

After the exhibition, which has been organized by a team of Protestant and Orthodox workers in the city and in friendly contact with Roman Catholic circles, the displays will be dismantled for possible use in other French-speaking centers. Pastor Paul Eberhard of Lyons plans to produce a publication, based largely on material in the exhibition, for wide dissemination.

The publicity for the exhibition, which was devised by pastors, journalists and design experts, said: "We want it to be a fine exhibition - airy, light, attractive, realistic and striking. We want it to teach something to Christians of all confessions. We want it to be a testimony to unbelievers of God's power in the Church, and through the Church in the world. The ecumenical exhibition will be an event in the history of Protestantism in Lyons."

In the first three days of the exhibition, there were over 2,000 visitors.

E.P.S., Geneva

HUNGARY

Office of Church Affairs Abolished

The Hungarian Government Office for Church Affairs, which was established in May 1951 to deal with all relationships between the state and the churches, has been dissolved. The business of the office will be dealt with from now on by the Hungarian Ministry of Public Education.

Bishop Bereczky's Resignation Questioned

The Council of the General Synod of the Hungarian Reformed Church is investigating the resignation of Bishop Albert Bereczky of the Danubian district who relinquished his office during the extensive changes in Protestant church leadership during November (see EPS No. 43, 1956). The circumstances surrounding the resignation are to be re-examined.

E.P.S., Geneva

Christian Aid Continues for Hungary's Refugees

By the end of the first week of January, 180,000 refugees had escaped to Austria. More than half of these have been moved to other countries. At the beginning of the New Year a nightly average of 700 people continued to cross into Austria, the proportion of Protestants being slightly higher than the previously reported estimate of 30 per cent.

In an interview with the vice-president of the United States, Mr. Richard Nixon, the director of Service to Refugees of the World Council of Churches, Dr. Edgar Chandler, urged the importance of adequate financial support for the Austrian Government, the Red Cross and voluntary agencies helping the refugees.

Dr. Chandler asked that the United States Government should try to introduce into the legislation a provision for refugees who had accepted temporary asylum in European countries other than Austria to enter the United States. Existing legislation in America provides only for immigration from countries of "first asylum". Dr. Chandler also took the opportunity to plead the cause of displaced persons and escapees who have been temporarily neglected owing to natural emphasis on the new Hungarian arrivals.

During the Christmas and New Year seasons fifty special Protestant services of worship were organized by a team of pastors working as a unit with the assistance of the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation.

Mobile teams and seven resettlement officers of the World Council of Churches continue to register and process refugees for resettlement abroad.

The YMCA and YWCA maintain their recreational, cultural and spiritual activities within forty to fifty camps spread all over Austria. It is estimated that together they touch 21,500 refugees. Information bulletins in Hungarian giving details about migration possibilities, temporary settlement in Austria and methods of tracing relatives and friends are published every second day in the Tyrol and Upper Austria. Community activities in the camps include language classes, needlework, handicrafts, film programs and orientation for resettlement.

The YMCA-YWCA was also working among the refugees who came to Austria with arms or in military uniforms and were put as internees into a special camp near Salzburg. With the permission of the Defence Ministry and in accordance with an understanding with the International Red Cross, this camp was supplied with equipment and program materials. In cooperation with the Vocational Training School in Salzburg courses for electricity and radio mechanics have been prepared. The camps has now disbanded and the inmates have been sent to other centers.

A two-day conference for Protestant Hungarian refugee pastors in Austria was held January 16-17 in Vienna under the sponsorship of the Austrian Evangelical Churches, Lutheran and Reformed. The Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches were represented at the conference. An estimated twenty-five persons are expected to attend.

At the Ecumenical Institute of the World Council of Churches, Bossey, Switzerland, theological students of fifteen countries and ten confessions, attending the Graduate School of the Institute, have addressed an appeal for ministry to the Hungarian refugees to theological students throughout the world. They seek ten thousand dollars for the pastoral care being provided by the ecumenical team of refugee pastors and theological students now at work in Austria.

The Protestant youth movements in Austria have cooperated from the beginning in serving the refugees. The Reformed, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist and Old Catholic Churches have recently established an "Ecumenical Youth Service". In addition they provide volunteers for work after office hours among the refugees, including emergency transport.
E.P.S., Geneva

UNITED STATES

Race Relations Message Seeks Action for Desegregation

(New York) - The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA has urged local congregations to take a forthright stand on the "crucial" issue of segregation.

In its annual message for Race Relations Sunday, Feb. 10, which will be read from the pulpits of thousands of churches in its thirty constituent communions, the Council states: "If we are to remain true to the gospel of Jesus Christ, we must not rest until segregation is banished from every area of American life."

The message was drafted for the Council by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., where he is minister of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. It was later adopted as a Council statement for distribution by the Council's Department of Racial and Cultural Relations.

The statement underlined that the churches themselves have largely failed to purge their own bodies of discriminatory practices, and urged them to work for a non-segregated society along lines suggested by the Council's Department of Racial and Cultural Relations.

Using as a theme, "For All - A Non-Segregated "Society", the message said: "The broad universality standing at the center of the gospel makes brotherhood inescapable."

After noting that some progress toward integration has been made, the statement pointed to segregated housing as "a critical problem remaining in every section of the nation." Segregated transportation facilities, slow compliance with the Supreme Court's decision on integration in the public schools and other areas calling for Christian action were deplored. At the same time, it paid tribute to "the courageous persons who stand steadfastly for the principles of Christian love and justice."

The message noted that "there are those who are telling us to 'slow up' in this move for desegregated society" and commented: "The true Christian knows that it is morally

wrong to accept a compromise which is designed to frustrate the fulfilment of Christian principle."

The Race Relations Sunday message further urged that love, patience and understanding govern those undertaking the fight for a desegregated society. "Wise restraint and calm reasonableness," it declared, "must prevail in the process of social change. But these considerations should serve to further the objective and not become a substitute for pressing toward the goal." E.P.S., Geneva

Famous Sinai Monastery is Unharmd

A United Nations mission reported that St. Catherine's monastery and its priceless relics had escaped damage in the Egyptian-Israeli hostilities.

Reports from Egyptian sources had said advancing Israeli forces looted the ancient monastery, which is in the Sinai desert and is believed to have been built by Emperor Justinian in memory of St. Catherine of Alexandra.

The United Nations Emergency Force sent a mission to check the reports and carry supplies to the monastery's eleven monks.

A United Nations spokesman said that the monastery area still was occupied by Israeli troops and the historic building was undamaged. E.P.S., Geneva

POLAND

Rebuilding Parish Life in the Reformed Churches

"The new church of Poland is growing," wrote Jan Niewieczermal, the Warsaw superintendent in charge of reconstruction and reorganization of the Reformed Churches in the Polish People's Republic, in an article in the German "Reformierte Kirchenzeitung".

During the years under the German occupation of Poland, the Reformed Church there almost ceased to exist. Before the war there had been 5,000 members of the Reformed Church living in Warsaw alone, but in 1945 there were hardly 1,000 of them left. It was difficult for these few Protestants even to hold meetings, because all the documents, deeds and books belonging to the churches had been destroyed by fire and war-damage.

Since then considerable progress has been made in restoring the work of the church throughout Poland, according to the information given by Superintendent Niewieczermal, although there are only six pastors available to give spiritual care in seven churches and six smaller groups. Church services and Bible study groups are being held regularly once more. In Warsaw a new church organization for evangelism and social work is being set up. The superintendent also reports that churches are being built with state support, and that students are receiving theological training.

The many tasks by which the Reformed Church of Poland is confronted can only be tackled with the help of larger churches, says Superintendent Niewieczermal. He closes his report with an appeal: "No church which shares our faith can be indifferent to the way in which one of its sister-churches lives and works, especially if it knows what a hell of suffering and destruction that church has passed through and realizes that it was on the verge of extinction." E.P.S., Geneva

GERMANY

Professor Freytag Visits Young Churches in Asia

(Hamburg) - Indonesia, Australian New Guinea and India are points of call during a study-tour now being undertaken by Professor Walter Freytag, chairman of the German Protestant Missionary Council and Professor of Missions at Hamburg University. Professor Freytag is chairman of the Division of Studies of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council.

The purpose of his journey is to study the position of young Christian churches in an environment influenced by pagan and other ideologies. Professor Freytag has visited these countries before, in 1934-35 and 1938-39, and will investigate the changes which have taken place in the life of the indigenous churches. In India, the German mission leader will be the guest of the Church of South India.

During Dr. Freytag's absence from Hamburg Bishop Stephen Neill is guest-lecturer at Hamburg University. Bishop Neill was co-editor of A History of the Ecumenical Movement and formerly one of the associate general secretaries of the World Council of

Churches. He is lecturing on movements for church union and on the Church of South India, which he helped to establish. Bishop Neill is also taking charge of the Hamburg Mission Academy during Dr. Freytag's absence. E.P.S., Geneva

GERMANY

The Church of Berlin-Brandenburg Loses 8,000,000 Marks

(Berlin) - Owing to the curtailment of state subsidies, changes in taxation and restrictions on collections, the Evangelical Church of Berlin-Brandenburg has lost over eight million D-Marks. In order to avert the crisis caused by this, Bishop Dibelius, in an appeal read from all pulpits in East Berlin and Brandenburg, has called on members of the church to make a special sacrifice. The appeal said:

"The maintenance of church workers in the Democratic sector of Berlin and in the Province of Brandenburg - the pastors, catechists, parish-nurses, organists and many other full-time workers, necessitates an expenditure of 20 million marks a year, at the most modest estimate. The cost of maintaining places to train these workers and of repairs to churches and pastors' residences amounts to about another 10 million marks a year. This does not include the social work done by the church, its institutions and homes, its academy, its conferences and courses of instruction.

"During the past year the Christian churches in the German Democratic Republic have had greater difficulty in exercising these rights. A new method of collecting taxes in the Democratic sector of Berlin has resulted in a loss of six million marks for the church; moreover the subsidy paid by the state to the Church of Berlin-Brandenburg has been reduced by over a million marks. The restrictions on our collections have also caused a loss of over a million marks a year. We have requested the state to assist us, but so far without result. In addition, obstacles are put in the way of our receiving help from our sister-churches in Western Germany and in the ecumenical movement - at any rate in the form that has been adopted hitherto." E.P.S., Geneva

GERMANY

Church of the Union to Study Forms of Church Union

(Berlin) - The Council of the Evangelical Church of the Union (EKU), at its meeting in December in Berlin, received a report on the work of the ecumenical study group of the EKU. This study group has been dealing mainly with different forms of church union and has made a thorough study of the Church of South India. The Council will now intensify its study by establishing contacts with other "union churches" in the ecumenical movement.

The Council decided to buy a house in Berlin to carry on the work of the ecumenical study group under the management of an independent board of trustees. E.P.S., Geneva

UNITED STATES

Ecumenical Institutes for U.S., and Canada

(New York) - "The Ecumenical Movement and the Local Church" is the theme for a series of summer ecumenical institutes for ministers and laity to be held in such key areas as Boston, Dallas-Fort Worth, Chicago, and New York-Philadelphia.

Among the 25 world-known lecturers, most of whom will be in this country to attend the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches at Yale University Divinity School in August, is the Council's honorary president, the Right Reverend Dr. G. K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester. Dr. Martin Niemöller, Germany; Bishop Leslie Newbigin of the Church of South India; and Metropolitan James of Melita are to participate.

Plan of the institutes is an ecumenical venture itself. In each major area many seminaries are sponsoring the institutes jointly. Local councils of churches are co-operating. The U.S. Conference of the World Council of Churches is helping to arrange the series.

Prominent Asian church leaders listed for the summer courses include Dr. V. E. Devadutt, Bishop Rajah Manikam, the Rev. Russell Chandran, Mr. Rajaiah D. Paul, all of India; and the Rev. Andrew Thakur Das, West Pakistan.

The summer institutes, most of them five days in length, seek to bring the ecumenical movement and the local church into direct contact. Staff of the World Council of Churches who will be lecturing includes Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary; Dr. Leslie E. Cooke, director of the Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees; and Dr. Elfan Rees, of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs.

In the Dallas-Fort Worth area the Ecumenical Institute planned for August 26-30 will be held on the campus of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. Sponsors are five seminaries in Texas and Oklahoma. The Boston area Ecumenical Institute is scheduled for July 7-12 at the Boston University School of Theology, sponsored by six leading New England seminaries.

Ecumenical Institutes will be held simultaneously at the Federated Theological Faculty, University of Chicago, and Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., August 12-16, with six midwestern seminaries as sponsors. Drew University Theological Seminary, Madison, N.J., is the scene for the Ecumenical Institute in the New York-Philadelphia area, July 22-26, where nine seminaries are cooperating in the sponsorship.

Butler University School of Religion, Indianapolis, Ind.; Huron College, London, Ontario; St. Stephen's College, Edmonton, Alberta; and Luther Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; will have special ecumenical lectureships in regular summer schools.

"Complaints are frequently heard that the ecumenical movement fails to connect with the local church. Here is the opportunity for ministers and laymen interested in the ecumenical movement to study it more closely with those deeply involved in it," says the Rev. Walter D. Wagoner, executive director of the Rockefeller Brothers Theological Fellowship Program, Princeton, N. J.

Mr. Wagoner, who helped to coordinate the Evanston Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1954, is making arrangements for the institutes. For further information concerning the program in various areas, preliminary inquiries should be addressed to: The Rev. Walter D. Wagoner, 163 Nassau Street, Princeton, N. J.

In Brief

The Presbyterian Church of England will open its reconstruction headquarters in Tavistock Place, London, next month. The previous building on the same site was completely destroyed in February 1945 by a rocket bomb, and the general secretary, the Rev. W. T. Elmslie, and other officers of the church were killed. The Evangelical Church in Germany contributed to the re-building.

* *

The Austrian Ministry of Education has placed Professor Fritz Zerbst, Professor of Practical Theology at the Protestant Theological Faculty of the University of Vienna, in charge of courses on ecumenical questions.

* *

Preparations for the Third Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation to be held in Minneapolis, USA, from August 15-25, 1957, include issuing of a study document, "Christ Frees and Unites", to the Federation's 57 member churches. The document has gone out in English, German and Swedish. In addition to 700 delegates and official visitors from twenty-nine nations, visitors are expected to take up 5,000 seats in the Minneapolis auditorium.

* *

Twenty-five years ago, when short wave was new in radio, a group of experts went to Quito (in Ecuador) with a small transmitter, to win people of all nations over to the Christian message. Today "The Voice of the Andes" is the oldest and largest Protestant broadcasting in the world. There are now eight transmitters. A new 50 kilowatt transmitter was erected a few weeks ago. Between them they broadcast for 31 3/4 hours every day, except Monday, in nine languages, and to every country in the world.

* *

A two-sided microgroove recording of the Christmas Eve service of Holy Communion in the Reformed Community of Taizé, France, like its predecessor "Soli Deo Gloria" made by the same group, which won the 1955 French Grand Prix for liturgical music, is available, with text in English, French and German, from the Communauté de Taizé, Taizé par Cormatin, S. & L., France.

* *

For the first time 60 monks of Russian origin living in Israeli received permission to enter Jordan. Altogether about 1,600 pilgrims passed through the Mandelbaum gate separating Israel from Jordan on Sunday, January 6, in order to celebrate the Greek Orthodox Christmas at Bethlehem.

* *

Plans being made in Denmark for a return visit by a Russian church delegation to Denmark following a visit to Moscow by Danish churchmen in 1955 have been deferred until further notice "in view of recent events in Hungary."

* *

The town of Siantar in Northern Sumatra witnessed an evening Christmas demonstration by more than 5,000 members of Christian youth groups when a procession over a mile long marched through the main street to the town square carrying flaming bamboo torches. Siantar is within the area of the Batak Church. The procession was organized by theological students of the Siantar seminary and bore in front an enlarged emblem of the "ecumenical ship", emblem of the World Council of Churches.

* *

The Reformed Church of the City of Basel in Switzerland has agreed to authorize full ministerial status for unmarried women who are theological graduates. The vote to give women this status was taken by 92 per cent of the Church's total membership of 85,000. The percentage which voted included both men and women. Women ministers must, however, resign if they marry.

* *

The Very Rev. Dr. John Baillie, until recently Principal of New College Edinburgh, and one of the presidents of the World Council of Churches, has received the rare decoration "Companion of Honour" from Queen Elizabeth II in her New Year honors list for 1957.

* *

Protestants of the small village of Dettenheim in Bavaria have helped about 400 Roman Catholic expellees from the former German far eastern provinces to build a church for themselves. They have given money and voluntary manual labor to erect a new Roman Catholic church in the village.

* *

Dr. C. E. Wilson, a Baptist pioneer of missionary cooperation died recently in London at the age of 86. As foreign secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society from 1905-39, and secretary and chairman of the Conference of British Missionary Societies, he took part in the formation of the International Missionary Council.

* *

A minister of the Disciples of Christ, Mr. Harry Partin, will conduct a study of "The Word of God and the Living Faiths of Men" under the auspices of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches. Mr. Partin, formerly of the University of Chicago, will begin his study in London and later travel extensively in the East. His investigation of Christianity and non-Christian religions will be within the Departments of Missionary Studies and Evangelism of the World Council of Churches.

* *

Announcing the foundation of a Norwegian Church Academy at Frederiksborg near Oslo, the Rev. Odd Godal, chairman of the new institution's executive committee, declared that it would gradually expand its conferences, courses and study groups to other parts of the country in an attempt to "enter into open and honest confrontation between Christianity and cultural life". The new academy will work as a lay institute in cooperation with all parts of the Church of Norway.

* *

A new Orthodox bishop for Estonia has been consecrated in Stockholm to serve the exile community of his Church in Sweden. He is the Rt. Rev. Jüri Valbi, successor to Bishop Alexander, who died in exile in Stockholm in 1953. Archbishop Athenagoras, London, Exarch of the Patriarchate of Constantinople; Metropolitan James of Melita; representative of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the World Council of Churches; and Bishop Chrysostomos of Theron, Vienna, officiated.

* *

The Church of South India Council in Great Britain has published a document in which the Church of Ireland has set forth resolutions governing the future conditions for recognition of ministries, participation in Holy Communion, preaching and celebration of the Communion as between the Church of Ireland (Anglican) and the Church of South India. The approved relationships between the two churches are an adaptation of the resolutions of the Church of South India passed by the Convocations of Canterbury and York and are substantially in agreement with the fuller degree of inter-communion established in England.

* *

The 14th World Convention on Christian Education, sponsored by the World Council of Christian Education and Sunday School Association is preparing to receive 2500 delegates in Tokyo, Japan, from August 6-13, 1958. The meeting will be the largest international conference ever held in Tokyo. At least 3,000 Japanese visitors are expected to join the official delegates.

* *

The new Spanish Sister that Spanish couples seeking recognition as Catholics in England must agree that they do not profess the Roman Catholic religion, and they agreed declarations to this effect and an affidavit as to their reasons for wanting to change their marriage in this form. They must also provide satisfactory evidence that they have not married during the last ten years.

The application, which was lodged at the principal official of the British Consulate, that the couple did not profess the Catholic religion. The couple were then given an opinion to the local bishops of the Roman Catholic Church.

A reply signed by the Archbishop of Madrid-Alcala, dated 25th April of the year, in which applicants declare they have abandoned the Roman Catholic religion, although they were baptized, they cannot validly contract marriage, unless they are baptized. The Archbishop then states a provision of canon law which states that those who were baptized in the Roman Catholic Church and who later converted to another religion, must observe the requirements of canonical marriage. The Archbishop also states the Concordat of 1953 between Spain and the Holy See, which states that in such cases.

The couple are considering the possibility of appealing against the decision of the principal authority.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MAGAZINE PRESENTS AN ARTICLE ON THE

World. A special issue of the Roman Catholic illustrated publication, "The World", was published before the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, from January 1957. The issue, No. 1, 1957, featured a special article on the Roman Catholic Church and its place within the universal church.

The article, written by Father Maurice Wilkins, a member of the World Council of Churches, was published in the "World" magazine. The article was written for the World Council of Churches' International Assembly in 1954. The article was written and should become part of the ecumenical movement, in the same way as other articles. That is what we should wish to show up using a magazine which is called "The World".

"By making a way of getting into touch with their separated brethren," says the article, "the Roman Catholic Church is preparing the special issue of the magazine. The article is written by a man who is a pure socialist and who has to go against the Church of Rome and the other churches."

